



For Immediate Release

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Weekend Morning Ramp Closures from Highway 101 to Southbound Highway 1/19th Avenue

Temporary ramp closures required to ensure public safety during tree removal

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – In order to remove a group of otherwise inaccessible trees in preparation for the start of construction of the Doyle Drive replacement in the fall, the off-ramps to southbound Highway 1 from Doyle Drive will be temporarily closed the mornings of four weekends in late August and in September.

“The only way we can safely access the group of trees overhanging the highway is by placing a crane on the off-ramp from Doyle Drive to southbound Highway 1, which leads to 19th Avenue,” said Dave Pang, Caltrans construction manager. “The early morning weekend ramp closures are scheduled for when traffic volumes are lowest and when crews can work safely without endangering the traveling public.”

Northbound and southbound Highway 101 to southbound Highway 1 ramp closures are planned for Saturday and Sunday mornings from 5:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 22-23, September 12-13, September 19-20 and September 26-27, 2009.

Optional vehicle trips should be avoided during the morning weekend ramp closures. Travelers coming from Lombard Street or Marina Boulevard should use Geary Boulevard to Highway 1/19th Avenue. Detour signage will direct southbound travelers to continue on Highway 101 (Lombard Street and Van Ness Avenue) to Geary Boulevard to Highway 1/19th Avenue. Northbound travelers will be directed to Lincoln Boulevard, to 25th Avenue, to Geary Boulevard. View a map of the ramp closure area.

www.doyledrive.org/project_docs/files/Simplified-RampClosureMap.JPG

Tree removal, necessary to create space for future construction activities and staging areas, began on Tuesday, August 11 and will continue through October 2009. The work is guided by the project’s Tree Removal and Protection Plan, which was carefully developed by planners and certified arborists to minimize tree removal. A thorough evaluation of each tree was conducted to verify which trees must be removed and which can be retained and protected. All tree material will be recycled or salvaged.

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About The Doyle Drive Replacement Project

The replacement of Doyle Drive with the Presidio Parkway is a collaborative effort led by the California Department of Transportation and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority.

Doyle Drive is the portion of Route 101 located within the Presidio of San Francisco that winds 1.5 miles along the northern edge of San Francisco and connects the San Francisco peninsula to the Golden Gate Bridge and the North Bay. Each weekday, over 100,000 vehicles travel between Marin and San Francisco over the Golden Gate Bridge along Doyle Drive.

Doyle Drive is structurally and seismically deficient and must be replaced. The roadway is facing the same problem that threatens other crucial components of the nation's infrastructure – the ravages of time and continual use. Originally built in 1936, Doyle Drive has reached the end of its useful life. The new Presidio Parkway replacement is based on a world-class design that will improve the seismic, structural and traffic safety of the roadway. It also will be far more sensitive to community needs and to the national park setting, reducing impacts on biological, cultural, historical and natural resources and on the surrounding neighborhoods.

Highlights of the new design include:

- A parkway with two short tunnels, a wide landscaped median, traffic calming transition to city streets and reduced lane and shoulder width
- A spectacular regional gateway that respects the natural contours of the surrounding area and complements the unique environment of San Francisco and the Presidio, a national park
- New direct access to the Presidio and enhanced views
- A more centralized location for transit connections
- Enhanced pedestrian connections within the Presidio to the Main Post, Crissy Marsh, the National Cemetery and historic batteries
- Reduced light and noise intrusion at Crissy Field.

For more information, visit www.doyledrive.org.

For high resolution images, visit www.doyledrive.org/contact/press_center.aspx

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